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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Belgium

DATE DISTR. 8 JAN 50

SUBJECT Background on Removal of Bertrand
from BCP Central Committee

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. There has been a good deal of discussion within the Belgian Communist Party (BCP) concerning the recent removal of Jean Bertrand from the Central Committee. Other members of the Party are accusing Bertrand of being paid by an unknown person or power to sabotage the Party. It is said that he defrauded the Party by making false claims for expenses incurred on trips to the provinces. According to Raymond Dispy, who has undertaken a surveillance of Bertrand, the deposed National Organizational Secretary was actually in Brussels while he pretended to have been on trips.
2. Until definite evidence against him has been established, Bertrand will not be expelled from the Party. He has, however, been demoted and sent to work in the Borinage where he will be surrounded with people whose task will be to observe him and report his slightest attempt to betray the Party. His use of BCP funds will be closely scrutinized, and he will be watched for any contact with anti-communist individuals or groups.

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